

REMARKS

Non-elected claims 18-20 have been canceled without bias or prejudice for possible inclusion in a further divisional application.

Claim 1 has been amended to include some of the subject matter of claim 7, namely specifying that the outer shell is formed of a graphite/epoxy material. This finds clear support in the specification, for example page 4, paragraph 1 and the first full paragraph of page 8 so as not to constitute new subject matter.

The Examiner in the Office Action indicated that claim 7, if combined with claim 1, presented patentable subject matter, since it distinguished over the cited Kompanek patent, U.S. 6,496,448, since shell 42 of Kompanek is made of steel or aluminum and would inherently provide structural reinforcement for the insulative layer and drivers. Amended claim 1 now specifically specifies that the outer shell is formed of a graphite/epoxy material and has an inner concentric insulative layer with a metallic liner located between the outer shell and said insulative layer. Thus it defines a structure completely different from that in Kompanek, which only has a metallic outer shell and not a shell formed of a graphite/epoxy material with a metallic liner located between the outer shell and insulative layer in order to provide the desired stiffness in the axial direction to the projector. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is now amended is believed proper and action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Claim 7 has been amended so that the language thereof corresponds to amended claim 1 and intervening claim 21 from which it now depends.

Claim 9 has been amended to depend from new dependent claim 21, and that the language conforms to that of claim 21 and amended claim 1.

Claim 11 has now been amended to include some of the subject matter of claim 14, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable if placed in such form. Claim 11 now specifies that the outer shell is formed of wound resin impregnated graphite strips, which defines a acoustic projector completely different from that of Kompanek which has the outer shell formed of metal. Accordingly, claim 11 is

Claim 16 also has been amended so that the language thereof corresponds with that of claim 14 from which it depends.

New claim 21 has been added and specifies that the graphite/epoxy material of the outer shell set forth in amended claim 1 includes wound resin impregnated graphite strips from which claim 7 now depends.

In view of the amendments to the claims, and in particular, to claims 1 and 11 which include most of the subject matter of claims 7 and 14 previously indicated as presenting allowable subject matter, it is believed in condition for allowance and action to that effect is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully requested that should the Examiner have any further questions or comments regarding the claims as now presented, that he phone the undersigned with the anticipation that a solution can be reached to place the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted this TH30 day of December, 2008.

SAND & SEBOLT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Sand", written in a cursive style.

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